GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3223
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2002
STUDY BY NEERI ON MINING
KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has been entrusted to study the potential mining areas in the State of Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the report is expected to be submitted by the said Organization?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): In order to integrate the environmental concerns with the developmental activities with specific reference to scientific mining in the Bellary-Hospet region as also to plan and implement appropriate strategies for the protection of environment and maintenance of ecological balance in the region, the State Government of Karnataka has informed that they have retained M/s. National Environment Engineering Research Institute(NEERI) for conducting Regional Environmental Impact Assessment Study in Bellary-Hospet region.

2. The objectives of Regional Environmental Impact Study are to establish baseline scenario with respect to different components of environment, viz. air, noise, water, land, biological and socio-economic including parameters of human interest, identification, prediction and evaluation of significant impacts; evaluation of existing pollution control facilities and preparation of cost-effective and appropriate Regional Environmental Management Plan.

3. NEERI has completed preparation of a Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment for mining operations in Bellary-Hospet region in October, 2002 based on one season data. The Regional Environmental Impact Assessment Study is scheduled to follow with three season data.